

PERFORMANCE REPORT

STATE: Alaska

GRANT NR: W-31-HS-2

TITLE: Hunter Information and Training

PERIOD: 1 July 1999–30 June 2000

PROJECT OBJECTIVES: To develop and conduct an educational program for the following purposes:

- Reduce hunting-related accidents, particularly those involving firearms and archery equipment;
- Provide students with a basic understanding of wildlife management;
- Assist students in understanding hunter responsibility and ethics and the roles these play in the future of hunting;
- Help students adapt to new rules and regulations.

JOB 1: PROGRAM COORDINATION AND EVALUATION

JOB OBJECTIVES

- Coordinate the state Hunter Information and Training (HIT) program
- Assure that we maintain standards

e. Activities: We conducted an internal review of our progress with the Alaska curriculum and met with the steering group to discuss the rough draft of the curriculum. We continued coordination and support of basic, bow, and muzzleloading courses.

This year we offered 71 basic HIT and 54 bowhunter education courses. Student enrollment in basic hunter education courses ranged from 1 per course to 89 per course, averaging 12.7 students certified per course. A total of 1090 students were certified statewide in the basic program. Bowhunter instructors certified 466 students this year. A total of 44 students received muzzleloader certification. The majority of students were from Fairbanks, Anchorage, Mat-Su Valley, and the Kenai peninsula. A total of 1600 students received certification in the HIT Program.

The mobile system made its first fully functional trip throughout Southeast Alaska during the months of June and July. Reloading, waterfowl/non-toxic shot, shotgun, bow, and rifle clinics, in addition to the electronic shooting system, were offered to the public.

b. Target Date: Continuing.

c. Job Status: Numbers of courses offered and students certified were slightly lower than last year. Major emphasis of staff time was working with the steering group to develop the new program curriculum and staffing the mobile training program.

d. Significant Deviations: None.

e. Recommendations: Have the new curriculum in place by January of 2001. The Board of Game rescinded the mandatory requirement and set it back to January 1, 2002.

JOB 2: INSTRUCTOR RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

JOB OBJECTIVES

- Recruit, train, and support volunteer instructors around the state
- Maintain at least 250 active instructors
- a. Activities:** A total of 213 instructors were active in the basic and bow programs. Selected instructors were given training in blackpowder instruction; blackpowder certification will become part of the certification program. No annual workshop was given this year. Funds normally used for this event were instead slated for production of the new curriculum.
- b. Target Date:** Continuing.
- c. Status of Progress:** We continue to add new instruction to augment our hunter certification program.
- d. Significant Deviations:** None.
- e. Recommendations:** As the new curriculum comes online, we will hold training workshops around the state to familiarize instructors with the program.

JOB 3: STUDENT RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING

JOB OBJECTIVES

- Encourage student participation in the HIT program
- Ensure that students enrolled in HIT courses receive a minimum of 10 hours of instruction on proper handling of hunting equipment, outdoor survival, wildlife management, and hunter responsibility and ethics
- Certify 2000 students each year in the basic HIT course

a. Activities: During this period 1090 students were certified in the basic HIT education course. An additional 466 were certified in the bowhunter education course. Basic courses averaged 15.3 students. Of the 71 basic courses offered, 51 had live fire and 13 had a field course. A basic hunter education course averaged 19.9 hours.

b. Target Date: Continuing.

c. Status of Progress: The number of students enrolled and certified in the hunter education program increased slightly from last year. Such fluctuations are not unexpected. A total of 1600 students were certified in the program.

MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN BASIC COURSES

Female	64/71 courses	213 students
Alaska Natives	25/71 courses	96 students
Black	4/71 courses	4 students
Oriental	10/71 courses	17 students
Hispanic	7/71 courses	7 students
Alaskans with disabilities	8/71 courses	13 students

MINORITY PARTICIPATION IN BOW HUNTER COURSES

Female	16/54 courses	27 students
Alaska Native	4/54 courses	4 students
Black	4/54 courses	4 students
Oriental	3/54 courses	3 students
Hispanic	2/54 courses	2 students
Alaskans with disabilities	0/54 courses	0 students

d. SIGNIFICANT DEVIATIONS: None.

e. Recommendations: To facilitate student access to our programs, we need to make it available in a variety of delivery formats. We will continue to offer courses in the traditional instructor delivery style, but we will also begin to offer the course as a home-study option. It will be in the form of workbooks, videos, and/or CD. This type of flexibility should result in more students taking the course.

JOB 4: ANNUAL PERFORMANCE REPORT

Job Objectives: Write an annual performance report describing active projects of the previous year.

SEGMENT PERIOD COSTS

State: \$65,700

Federal: \$10,600

Total: \$76,300

PERSONNEL

John Matthews

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Elaine Larimer

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Rod Perry

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